



Stakeholder Announcement

Importation of Fresh Citrus Fruit from the Republic of South Africa into the Continental United States

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is proposing to amend the fruits and vegetables regulations to allow the importation of several varieties of fresh citrus fruit, as well as Citrus hybrids, into the continental United States from areas in the Republic of South Africa. The citrus varieties will be coming from areas of the Republic of South Africa where citrus black spot has been known to occur so they will need to meet the following conditions of entry:

- Produced in accordance with a systems approach that would include shipment traceability, packinghouse registration and procedures, and phytosanitary treatment;
- Required to be imported in commercial consignments and accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the national plant protection organization of the Republic of South Africa;
- Has an additional declaration confirming that the fruit has been produced in accordance with the systems approach.

We are taking this action in response to a market access request submitted by the Republic of South Africa. This action is in accordance with our obligations under the International Plant Protection Convention and the Plant Protection Act, consistent with domestic restrictions on the interstate movement of citrus from areas quarantined for citrus pests, including CBS, and does not compromise our protection against the introduction of plant pests into the United States.

The docket can be found at:

There will be a 60 day comment period for this proposed rule. We encourage all stakeholder to submit their comments during this proposed rule's 60 day comment period. All comments will be considered before issuing the final rule.